



**Town of Camden**  
**Select Board Meeting**  
**August 23, 2016**  
**Minutes**

**Present:** Select Board Chair John French and Select Board Members, James Heard, Leonard Lookner, Marc Ratner, and Don White, and Town Manager, Pat Finnigan. Also present were citizens and members of the press.

**1. Call to Order.** Select Board Chair John French called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

**2. Communications, Presentations, and Recognitions**

**A. Pathways Committee Report.** Geoff Scott, Chair of the Pathways Committee invited the Select Board to attend the Ribbon Cutting ceremony on September 1 at 10:00 a.m. to celebrate the completion of the "Seabright" section of the Riverwalk. This is the second section to be completed.

Mr. Scott reported that the Committee is working on securing a grant to do the next section of the Riverwalk, which will extend from Knowlton St to the Wastewater Treatment Plant. He asked the Select Board to endorse their Recreational Trail Program (RTP) grant application for approximately \$30,000. It is a matching grant, but the Town's share is mostly "in kind" services of labor and materials. *Leonard Lookner made a motion to support applying for an RTP Grant for the next section of the Riverwalk. Don White seconded the motion. The motion passed 5 to 0.*

**B. Maker Faire.** The Select Board considered the request from the Camden Public Library to close Atlantic Ave on Saturday September 10 from 8:00a to 5:00p for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Maker Faire. *Jim Heard made a motion to approve the request. Leonard Lookner seconded the motion. The motion passed 5 to 0.*

**C. Camden Windjammer Festival.** Community Development Director Karen Brace presented the request from the Windjammer Festival Committee to use the Public Landing from Thursday, Sept. 1 at 5:00 p.m. through Sunday, Sept. 4 at 4:00 p.m. Don White made a motion to approve the request. Leonard Lookner seconded the motion. The motion passed 5 to 0.

**3. Citizen Comments**

Two citizens had comments for the Select Board:

Alison McKellar expressed concerns regarding the decision not to hold a special Town Meeting before August 31 to decide whether to continue with the Municipal Review Committee (MRC) and bring the town's solid waste to Fiberight. August 31 was a deadline set by the MRC for the communities of Mid Coast Solid Waste to decide whether they wanted to enter into a 15 year contract with MRC. Ms. McKellar said she thought staying with the MRC was important. She expressed concern that she felt citizens had already expressed their preference for solid waste disposal at the June Town Meeting and via an on-line petition she presented. She said there didn't seem to be any consistency in the process the Town uses for people to vote on issues.

Mark Abb of 89 Chestnut Street inquired about the process to have a handicap parking sign installed by his home. The Select Board referred this request to the Police Chief and Town Manager.

**4. Minutes of August 2, 2016.** Don White made a motion to approve the Minutes. Jim Heard seconded the motion. The motion passed 5 to 0.

**5. Application by Cottage Holdings LLC to construct a residential pier at 144 Bay View St.**

Select Board Chair John French opened the public hearing on this application. Will Gartley presented this request. He described the proposed pier and said the project had been reviewed by the agencies that are required to review pier projects including: Army Corps of Engineers, Maine Dept. of Environmental Protection, the Planning Board and the H a r b o r Committee. Each agency or board issues decisions that the pier met the review criteria.

The Select Board reviewed the list of review criteria that they are required to consider to approve a pier application and make their findings of fact. The Select Board determined the application met all the criteria and requirements of the ordinance.

*John French made a motion to approve the application. Leonard Lookner seconded the motion. The motion passed 5 to 0.*

**6. Amendment to Zoning Ordinance, Article VIII, Section 5, Coastal Residential District (CR) to include the maintenance and construction of boats as an allowed use.**

Chip Laite, President of Laite Constriction, said he suggested this change. He has large buildings which stored construction equipment. Over the years, he has been approached by people to use those buildings to build boats or do major boat repairs there. He said this is currently not allowed in the ordinance in that zone. He thought the amendment would be helpful to support that type of activity in Camden and could keep or create marine-related jobs.

Planning Board Chair Lowrie Sargent presented the specifics of the zoning amendment. He said the Planning Board recommended this amendment to allow maintenance and construction of boats an allowed use in this zone. He explained that this zone currently allows boat storage and there are safeguards in place regarding screening and the size of the lots.

Leonard Lookner said that when a similar amendment was proposed several years ago he had opposed it, but he now believe this will be good for the community. Marc Ratner said he supported it because it will help keep boat building in the area.

Chair French said that if the Board supports the proposed amendment, it will need to be approved by the voters at a Town Meeting.

*Leonard Lookner made a motion to have this amendment placed on the November 8 Special Town Meeting Warrant. Don White seconded the motion. The motion passed 5 to 0.*

**7. Rte. 1 North Advisory Committee request that the Town ask the Maine Department of Transportation (MDOT) to conduct a speed study.**

Bob Falciani, Chair of the Rte. 1 North Advisory Committee, reported on the work of the Committee to date. HE said they had met with residents along this corridor, they walked the section of Rte. 1 that MDOT plans to reconstruct, and they have had two meetings with MDOT staff. One of their concerns is the allowed speed on that section of Rte. 1. They would like to tourists, bicyclists, and pedestrians. When they met with MDOT Traffic Engineer Steve Landry,

he suggested that the Town should request that MDOT conduct a speed study to determine if a lower speed was called for. Mr. Falciani said the speed study could show that 50 mph is the appropriate speed, but it could also provide the necessary data to lower the speed. He said MDOT's Steve Landry assured the Committee that the allowed speed would not be increased above 50 mph.

*Leonard Lookner made a motion to request that MDOT conduct a traffic and speed study of the Rte. 1 North project area. Don White seconded the motion. The motion passed 5 to 0.*

Leonard Lookner asked the Board to support sending a request for a speed study of Melvin Heights Road to East Fork Road. He said he has expressed concern about the speed on that section of the road and his concerns that pedestrians and bicyclists are at risk, especially since there are no shoulders.

*Leonard Lookner made a motion to request MDOT conduct a speed study of Melvin Heights to East Fork Road. Jim Heard seconded the motion. The motion passed 5 to 0.*

**8. Contract for Solid Waste Disposal.** Set September 6 as the date for a Public Hearing to consider the recommendation of the Mid Coast Solid Waste Corporation Board to enter into a 5 year contract with ecomaine for the disposal of municipal solid waste for \$57.85 per ton.

*Don White made a motion to hold a public hearing on September 6 to consider the recommendation of the Mid Coast Solid Waste (MCSW) Corporation Board of Directors to hold a Special Town Meeting on November 8 to ask citizens to authorize the (MCSW) Board to enter into a 5 year contract with ecomaine for the disposal of municipal solid waste for \$57.85 per ton.*

Marc Ratner asked why the fee had been reduced from \$70 per ton to \$57.85. Chair French explained that this is the "short-term" rate. The \$70 fee was for a 20 year contract. Mr. Ratner asked what it would be after the 5 years. Mr. French said it would be the market rate. Mr. French then explained that the Mid Coast solid Waste Board supports ecomaine as the right solution for or region at this time. He also said that this approach will be cost effective for the 4 communities, it would allow the MCSW Board to focus on making improvements to the transfer station, and allow the communities to work with ecomaine to improve our recycling rate. Mr. Ratner asked what would happen if the 4 towns didn't all vote in support of this question. Mr. French said we would have to have another vote of the communities.

Mr. Lookner said that the 5 year contract was good because it allowed the MCSW communities to take their waste to ecomaine which is a known organization with a good track record. During that time if another option became available, such as Fiberight, the towns would have the option to contract with them.

Alison McKellar was the only member of the public who spoke. Chair French closed the public hearing and called for a vote on the motion. The motion passed 5 to 0.

**9. Tax due Date.** The Town Meeting approved having taxes due on October 15. The Town Manager said at the time the agenda was prepared, there was a chance that we might need to push the tax due date into November. However, she said the Assessor was on schedule to complete the tax commitment. She said that she expected people would receive their tax bills 5 to 6 weeks before they are due.

*John French made a motion to keep the date approved by the Town Meeting. Jim Heard seconded the motion. The motion passed 3 to 2 with Don White and Marc Ratner opposed.*

**10. 2016 Knox County Tax Assessment.** The Town Manager said the County operate son a calendar year and the County Taxes and the bill for the communications center are due September 1. This year Camden's share of the county tax is \$1,196,237.22 and the assessment for County dispatch/9-1-1 services is \$127,714.

*Don White made motion to authorize payment of the Knox County taxes and the dispatch center bill. Leonard Lookner seconded the motion. The motion passed 5 to 0.*

**11. Amendment to the contract with North East Mobile Health Services.** The Town Manager said North East Mobile Health Services (NEMHS) provides emergency medical and transport services to Camden, Rockport, Lincolnville and part of Hope. The Towns have a 3-year contract for this service until June 30 2017. She said the Town of Hope recently voted to have NEMHS provide service to the entire town of HOPE. Due to this change, it slightly reduced Camden's share of the cost of the contract. She said each of the Towns needed to approve the amendment to allow the reduce payment to NEMHS. For Camden, it will lower the contract price in FY17 from \$27,032 to \$25,311 and in FY18 from \$34,444 to \$32,252.

*Don White made a motion to approve the contract amendment. Jim Heard seconded the motion. The motion passed 5 to 0.*

**12. Appointment of Select Board members to the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Review Committee.** The Town Manager said that the four member Towns of Camden, Rockport, Lincolnville and Hope have a committee which meets about quarterly with NEMHS staff to discuss service performance and other EMS-related issues that the Town or NEMHS need to be aware of. Each Town appoints two people to serve on the committee. Camden Representatives had been John French and former Select Board Member Martin Cates.

*Don White made a motion to reappoint John French and appoint Marc Ratner. Jim Heard seconded the motion. The motion passed 5 to 0.*

**13. Victualers & Lodging Licenses.** The Select Board considered license renewal applications from Long Grain restaurant, Marriner's Restaurant, and Subway at 123 Elm Street. Mr. Ratner noted that the Fire Chief had not signed approval for Subway. The Town Manager said that the Select Board could give its approval but the licenses would not be issued without the necessary reviews by the Fire Department.

*Don White made a motion to approve the applications. Leonard Lookner seconded the motions. The motion passed 5 to 0.*

There being no further business to discuss, Don White made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Jim Heard. The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

---

Nora E. McGrath, Recording Secretary